

Article - Education

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§7–204.

- (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.
- (2) “Criterion-referenced test” means a measuring instrument that meets common standards or criteria including validity, reliability, objectivity, efficiency, and usefulness.
- (3) “Measurement” means a procedure for determining quantity.
- (4) “Standardized test” means a measuring instrument that:
 - (i) Is designed to measure important common outcomes of representative courses of study;
 - (ii) Is administered according to specific detailed directions prescribed in a manual;
 - (iii) Is scored by an objective procedure;
 - (iv) Provides norms for comparison of individual scores with representative group scores; and
 - (v) Provides information needed for judging the value of the test.
- (5) “Test” means a method, technique, or instrument that measures the amount, status, or level of progress achieved toward an instructional objective.
- (6) “Test objectivity” means a set of conditions leading to standard procedure and interpretation, and the elimination of all elements of personal bias.
- (7) “Test reliability” means the consistency with which a test can be trusted to give the same or similar scores or descriptions of behaviors at different times.
- (8) “Test validity” means the extent to which an appraisal technique actually measures the element it is designed to measure.

(b) (1) The State Board shall conduct a comprehensive, in-depth assessment of State mandated testing and measurement programs.

(2) The assessment shall include for each State mandated testing or measurement program an evaluation of:

(i) Costs of materials for administering the testing and measurement programs;

(ii) The efficiency and effectiveness of the testing and measurement programs;

(iii) Administrative procedures and costs associated with the testing and measurement programs;

(iv) Allocation of time devoted to testing and measurement;
and

(v) Methods for scoring and utilization of test results.

(3) The assessment shall include an analysis of the validity, reliability, and objectivity of all testing and measurement instruments including:

(i) Standardized tests;

(ii) Criterion-referenced tests; and

(iii) The functional testing program established under § 7-203 of this subtitle.

(c) For any test instrument authorized for use in a State mandated testing and measurement program, the Board shall recommend procedures and standards for determining test validity, test reliability, and test objectivity.

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